Conversations with Apollinaire

Jack Thibeau, Poet

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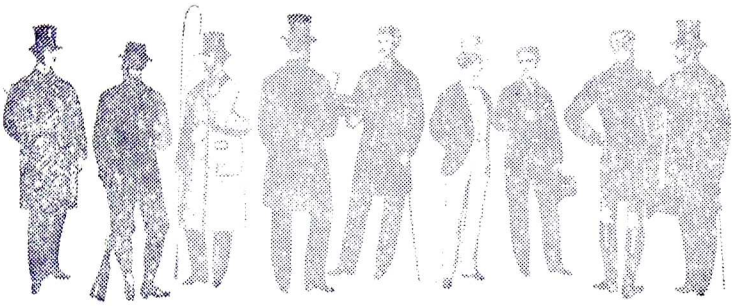

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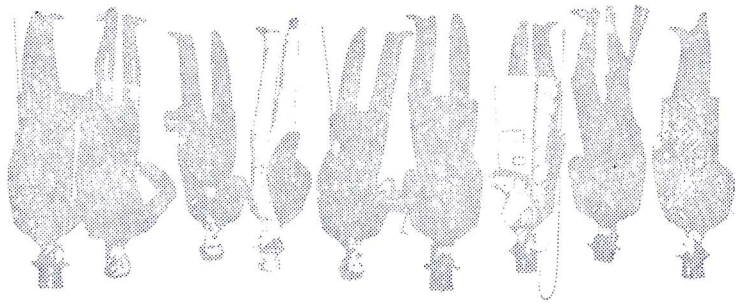
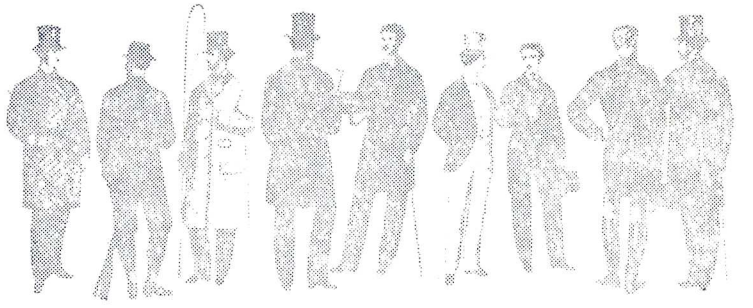


Jack Thibeau, *Poet*



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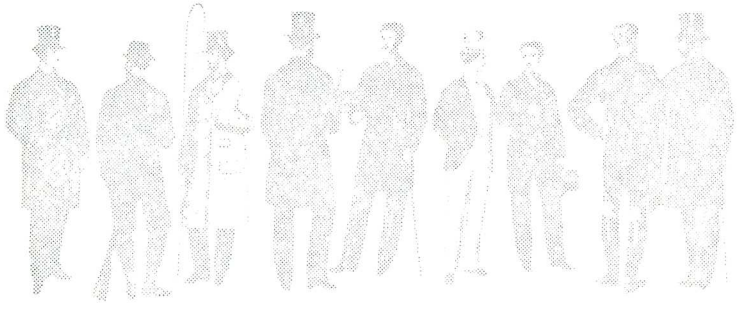

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CONVERSATIONS WITH APOLLINAIRE

THE TATTOOED GRAPEFRUIT

The title of this story is " The Tattooed Grapefruit. " Apollinaire wrote it when he was blind. Some people will read this story and assume it is about a grapefruit with tattooes on it. Those are the very people who will never understand what " The Tattooed Grapefruit " is all about.

" AS TIME GOES BY "

Today Apollinaire is dancing again. Dancing by himself with a mirror. Apollinaire's arms are around the mirror but the arms of the mirror are not around Apollinaire.

Apollinaire is beginning to swoon. He remembers the times he danced all night in Havana and he remembers Casablanca when he said to the piano player, " Play it again, Sam."

Sam, of course, plays it again as Apollinaire and the mirror tenderly cheek-to-cheek it.

APOLLINAIRE IN NEVADA

Apollinaire is in a place we cannot see watching us thru high-powered glasses. We make a long-distance phone call to Apollinaire but Apollinaire will not answer. Apollinaire just stands there listening to the phone ring, watching us thru high-powered glasses listening to the phone ring.

It is curtains for Apollinaire. Curtains so high you can only see the bottom of those curtains. Apollinaire is in the desert with the curtains drawn at midnight. Those curtains happen to be purple curtains.

Apollinaire is moving across the desert like a giant sun-dial.

Apollinaire is three o'clock going on three-thirty.

Apollinaire is a lizard bouncing bad checks.

APOLLINAIRE AND THE "ELECTRIC" FUNNEL

Eventually Apollinaire learned to play the piano. In fact, Apollinaire learned to play the largest piano in the world. The piano Apollinaire learned to play was so large it took Apollinaire three days just to play one piece on it. The piano is rumoured to have been just about as large as The Louvre.

Finally Apollinaire gave up playing the piano on the advice of his physician. He could no longer find time to sleep because he was always playing the piano. His physician also advised him to take up some other musical instrument. Within months, Apollinaire had become master of the " electric " funnel.

DINNER AT EIGHT

Last evening Apollinaire dined in the most sumptuous of restaurants. Placed before him were two huge rubies, the same shape and size as dinner rolls.

ISTANBUL

This time Apollinaire has obviously taken leave of his senses. He watches from the platform as they depart on the midnight train. Each one in a different window, waving bye-bye.

P.S.

Contrary to popular belief, Apollinaire did not invent the tennis sneaker and even more contrary to popular belief, Apollinaire did not invent the track shoe. The tennis sneaker and the track shoe were invented by a man who looked like Apollinaire but who could not run as fast. According to Apollinaire both inventions were flops.

WHO'S WHO

An Apollinaire is a person with a million Apollos.

THE LAST APOLLINAIRE POEM

Apollinaire did not become famous because he was a poet. Apollinaire became famous because his name was Apollinaire.

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